

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1249

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UNCLAS BEIRUT 6463

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: JOURNALISTS TRAVELLING WITH AMERICAN CONVOY TO SYRIA

1. TWENTY-FIVE JOURNALISTS HAVE REGISTERED TO DATE TO TRAVEL WITH AMERICAN CONVOY TO SYRIA. IF NORMAL PROCEDURE OF REQUIRING ADVANCE AUTHORIZATION OF SYRIAN MININFO FOR ENTRY INTO SYRIA IS FOLLOWED UPON CONVOY'S ARRIVAL AT SYRIAN BORDER, ENTIRE CONVOY MAY BE DELAYED.

2. EMBASSY DAMASCUS MAY WISH INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION COVERING ALL JOURNALISTS IN CONVOY WITHOUT NAMING THEM. THIS IS PREFERABLE TO INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZATIONS BECAUSE ADDITIONAL JOURNALISTS MAY REGISTER BEFORE CONVOY DEPARTS AND BECAUSE SOME JOURNALISTS MAY NOT BE WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO SARG.

3. FYI, FOLLOWING JOURNALISTS ARE NOW REGISTERED:

MARIO BIASETTI CBS-NEWS AMERICAN
CONSTANTINE BRELIS TIME-LIFE AMERICAN
LAWRENCE BUCHMAN ABC-NEWS AMERICAN
JOHN COOLEY CSM & ABC-NEWS AMERICAN
DANIEL DA CRUZ FREE-LANCE AMERICAN
JOSEPH FITCHETT NEAR EAST BUSINESS AMERICAN
FRED FRANCIS NBC-NEWS AMERICAN
WILLIAM LORD NBC-NEWS AMERICAN
NICHOLAS LUDINGTON AP AMERICAA
DOYLE MCMANUS UPI AMERICAN
RICHARD RIGGINS NBC-NEWS AMERICAN

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MARC (ABDULLAH) SCHLIEFER NBC-NEWS AMERICAN

DOUGLAS TUNNEL CBS-NEWS AMERICAN
DIANE BISHOP CBC AUSTRALIAN
ANTHONY CLIFTON NEWSWEEK AUSTRALIAN
RONALD HEADFORD ABC-NEWS AUSTRALIAN
JOHN DAVID HIRST GUARDIAN BRITISH
MAURICE NADKARNI NBC-NEWS BRITISH
PHILIPPE LEDRU SYGMA FRENCH
PATRICE LE GALL DU TERTRE FRENCH TV FRENCH
PHILIPPE ROCHOT FRENCH TV FRENCH
JEAN-CLAUDE VARGAS FRENCH TV FRENCH
GERHARD SCHWARTZKOPFF CBS-NEWS GERMAN
OSVALDO BISI ABC-NEWS ITALIAN
ADALBERTO PASQUINI CBS-NEWS ITALIAN
SEELYE

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